THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 12th May 1952.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

[*Note*.—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

I.—CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION *re.* THE DEATH OF DR. U. RAMA RAO.

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is my painful duty to inform the House of the death of Dr. U. Rama Rao, a former President of the Legislative Council."

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you have observed, this morning, in the early hours, Dr. U. Rama Rao, one of the leading figures in the City of Madras, passed away in peace without any period of illness or pain preceding his end. I heard this from his bereaved widow this morning, and it gave me a kind of sad satisfaction. Dr. Rama Rao was born in 1874. He was the good Samaritan for all the young people in the City of Madras in the late nineties of the last century, among whom I was one, being a young student lodger in the City of Madras at that time. Dr. Rama Rao was for a long time member of the Madras Medical Council and was also its President. He was the editor of ' The Antiseptic ' and ' Health ' and he published several tracts on health and hygiene. He was President of the Indian Medical Association and Superintendent of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade of this district. Sir, apart from the active and invaluable services he rendered in his own profession, he was an elected Member of the Council of the Corporation of Madras for many years, he was a member of the University Senate and of the old Legislative Council of Madras. He became a member of the Council of State in Delhi in 1927, which he resigned in 1930. When a popular Ministry took charge of Madras in 1937, he was a Member of the Legislative Council and was its elected President from June 1937 to March 1943. Hon. Members who served in the Legislature at that time know well the manner in which he discharged his duties. He was on exceedingly points, good-hearted and benevolent man. The enormous public service which he did during his long life is worthy of commendation. His two worthy sons, and grandson also, belong to that same noble profession. Dr. Rama Rao was a model citizen and model head of his family. The members of his family, I am sure, will maintain the noble traditions started by the father; all those he has left behind in his family will, I hope, maintain the same tradition of professional service and politics without egotism or rancour. Sir, I move, in accordance with the practice followed in this House, that the following resolution be adopted :—

' *That this Assembly places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Dr. U. Rama Rao, a former*

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distinguished President of the Legislative Council and a member of the Legislature for many years, and conveys its sense of sympathy to the members of the bereaved family '."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party and on my own behalf I associate myself wholeheartedly with all the words said by the Hon. Chief Minister. Dr. Rama Rao had been one of the most outstanding figures in the public life of this city. He was not merely a leading doctor, but he was one of the most popular doctors. When I first came to Madras as a student the first doctor's name I heard was the name of Dr. Rama Rao, because he was the most easily accessible doctor not only to the rich but to the poor, and particularly to the student population. He was very generous-hearted and broad-minded. He had the satisfaction of seeing, before he expired in ripe old age, one of his sons occupy a Minister's post in this important State of Madras. It is good that he expired without any pain or suffering. It is the kind of death all must aspire for after living to a good old age. I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Hon. Chief Minister in moving the resolution."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I associate the Chair with the sentiments expressed by the Hon. Chief Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. I knew well Dr. Rama Rao; he was a very popular doctor and he had a roaring practice. He was a Member of the Legislative Council for some time, and as President of the Legislative Council he maintained its prestige and dignity."

The resolution reads as follows :—

' This Assembly places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Dr. U. Rama Rao, a former distinguished President of the Legislative Council and a Member of the Legislature for many years, and conveys its sense of sympathy to the members of the bereaved family. '

As a mark of respect to the deceased, I request hon. Members to stand in their places for two minutes, and pass the resolution.

" The resolution was passed unanimously, the hon. Members standing in silence for two minutes."

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Famine conditions in Karur and other taluks in Tiruchirappalli district.

* 1 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether—

(*a*) any representations have been made to the Government by the local officials and public bodies regarding famine conditions prevailing in some parts of Karur, Kulittalai and Perambalur taluks of Tiruchirappalli district; and

(*b*) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to give immediate relief to the people in this area?